CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OF ICINIS CHEY 25X1A

Approved For Release 2001 Control of the control of 200457R0067006 INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 2 FEB 51

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SUBJECT 71st Infantry Battalion at Zakupy

NO. OF PAGES

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DATE OF 25X1C INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

The 71st Infantry Battalion at Zakupy is an independent unit directly subordinate to the Ministry of National Defense, General Headquarters for Airborne Units. It has a strength of 35 officers and about 500 men, and it is composed of the following companies:

- 1st Company, comprising 80 men, which is a standard airborne company. is equipped with submachine guns MP-44, 6 light machine guns CZ-26,7.65 mm pistols, "Trmeckove" antitank hand grenades of Soviet origin, and Skoda "attacking" grenades, type 34.
- b. 2nd Company consisting of 20 non-commissioned officer instructors and 100 men; it is actually a school for non-commissioned officers.
- 5th Company, comprising 80 men, which is equipped with special weapons (rota doprovodnych zbrani), submachine guns MP-44N, 6 light machine guns CZ-26, 7 heavy machine guns CZ-37, 4-37 mm infantry guns Skoda 38, 2-81 mm mortars, and Panzerfausts and Panzerschrecks for training purposes.
- d. Command Company, which controls a vehicle park containing the following vehicles:

12 jecps

7 Bedford

2 Dodge

1 7-ton Hann

1 ambulance

2 IMIJ

2 Tatra passenger cars

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All these vehicles are old and in very poor condition.

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Approved For Release 2001/03/05: CIA-RDP82-00457R006700670006-3

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- 2. The parachutes in use are the VJ-1 made by PAK, in Prague, from a design of a lst It. Madera. Old German parachutes are used for dropping supplies.
- 3. A training camp at Straz pod Ralskem belongs to the 71st Infantry Battalion, and selected men from the battalion are sent there for specialized training. In small groups of five or six men they are trained in sabotage, in intelligence, and in leading and organizing partisan groups.
- 4. Courses for members of the SNB and OZ officers, patterned after the British Commando training, are given at this camp for a period of 10-12 weeks. Two special companies, known as "Uderna rota" and "Radio rota", are used for these courses. Training includes handling of explosives, firing of all types of weapons, operating various types of radio stations, coding and decoding, travelling through the countryside as an individual and in small groups, and passing on information.
- 5. Parachute training is performed at the Hradeany airfield. Aircraft are not stationed at the field but are flown in from Prague-Khely. Gliders have not yet been used although six gliders of American and British origin are located at the Khely airfield.
- 6. Jumping and training grounds are located in the villages of Sveborice and Ilvozdov, and a firing range is situated 0 km south of Olesna. On a pend in the training area, units are trained in the use of rubber dinghies, of which 15 for 7 men each and 2 for 12 men each are available.
- 7. Extensive use is made of live ammunition and hand grenades. Heavy weapons are simulated by explosions detonated by electric fuses. Assault tactics only are employed, and no training in retreat is given.
- 8. Identity cards carried by the men in this training area are of the normal type without a photograph and without the holder's signature.

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